

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A coolant comprising:  
  
a water-containing base material; and  
  
a corrosion-preventive additive that functions to keep an electric conductivity of said coolant at a low level and to maintain a hydrogen ion exponent of said coolant in a substantially neutral level wherein said coolant has an electric conductivity of less than about 100  $\mu$ S/cm.
2. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base material is a solution containing a glycol.
3. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive includes at least one of an alkaline additive and an acidic additive.
4. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive includes an alkaline additive and an acidic additive.
5. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 4, wherein the alkaline additive is an ethanolamine.
6. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 5, wherein the ethanolamine is one of triethanolamine, diethanolamine, and monoethanolamine.
7. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 4, wherein the acidic additive is selected out of the group consisting of triazole compounds, phosphoric acid compounds, and organophosphoric acid compounds.

8. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive causes said coolant for fuel cells to have a hydrogen ion exponent of about 6 to 9.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive exhibits corrosion-preventive characteristics against aluminum material.

11. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive is a nonionic substance.

12. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 11, wherein the nonionic substance includes at least one of a saccharide and a nonionic surfactant.

13. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 11, said coolant is decontaminated by a coolant decontamination system using either one of an ion exchange resin and a chelating resin.

14. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, said coolant has undergone deoxidation.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of enclosing a coolant in accordance with claim 1 in a cooling circuit for a stack of fuel cells, said method comprising the steps of: deoxidizing said coolant; and enclosing said deoxidized coolant with an inert gas in said cooling circuit.

16. (Previously Presented) A cooling system, said cooling system comprising: a coolant in accordance with claim 1; and a cooling circuit in which said coolant and an inert gas are enclosed.

17. (Withdrawn) A method of decontaminating a coolant, said method of comprising the steps of:

preparing a water-containing base material;

preparing a rust-preventive additive that functions to keep an electric conductivity of said coolant at a low level and to maintain a hydrogen ion exponent of said coolant in a substantially neutral level; and

removing deteriorating substances from a solution mixture of the base material and the rust-preventive additive with either one of an ion exchange resin and a chelating resin.

18. (Previously Presented) The coolant according to claim 1, wherein the coolant is used in a fuel cell system.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the coolant has a conductivity of less than about 100  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ .